



**Date 7 December 2011**

## **City Council Committee Report**

**To: Mayor Canfield & Members of Council**

**Fr: Karen Brown**

**Re: 2012 KAR Agreement**

### **Recommendation:**

**That** Council hereby approves a by-law authorizing a contract between the Kenora Assembly of Resources and the City of Kenora for provision of services at the Harbourfront and related areas for the period January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012.

### **Background:**

Originally, the Kenora Assembly of Resources (KAR) contract was to expire at the end of 2010 at the request of KAR. As a result, the Lake of the Woods Development Commission (LOWDC) underwent a detailed review of KAR related services and programming. Near the end of 2010, the KAR Board approached the City to advise that they were willing to extend the agreement for a two year period to ensure the City had sufficient opportunity to fully address the services being provided under the KAR agreement and to ensure a successful transition.

At that time, Council approved a four month extension to the KAR agreement, pending further review. On May 16, 2011, City Council approved a one year contract with KAR (for 2011) for the continued provision of social programming within the City, and particularly on the Harbourfront. The decision made was to approve a one year contract in recognition that 2012 was to be a transition year, and that the KAR agreement should be updated accordingly. From the time of the LOWDC review to May 16, 2011, a number of reports were brought forward to the current Council on this issue. It is not the intent to reiterate those reports here. A copy of the report provided for the May 16, 2011 meeting has been attached for your reference. The other reports, while not attached to this report, are also available to Council as requested.

Since May 2011, the City has been working towards identifying a partner to take over the programs currently provided under the KAR contract. At this time, the Kenora Fellowship Centre has been identified as a potential partner. This group is currently working on a proposal for the City, which will include 2012 as a transition year, followed by full service implementation proposed for

2013. Once received, this proposal will be reviewed and an independent recommendation brought forward for Council consideration.

In the interim, the existing KAR contract is set to expire at the end of 2011. When passed in May, the discussion was that a second agreement would be passed for 2012 once a transition plan had been identified. Unfortunately, the transition plan is still being developed. As such, an amended agreement, with generic updates to recognize the transition for 2012 has been developed and is being recommended for approval at this time. It has been attached to this report for your reference.

**Budget:**

The KAR Service Agreement will be included in the 2012 budget, and is unchanged from the 2011 allocation.

**Communication Plan/Notice By-law Requirements:**

KAR will be advised of Council's decision on this matter.